

SENATE BILL 34
By Cohen

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 4, Part 9, relative to receipt of Tennessee
HOPE scholarships by students transferring from
out-of-state postsecondary institutions.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-910, is amended by designating the existing language as subsection (a) and by adding the following language as new subsection (b):

(b) A Tennessee citizen who is eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship or a General Assembly Merit Scholarship as an entering freshman, but who chooses to forgo receipt of such scholarship to attend a postsecondary institution located outside of Tennessee that is accredited by a regional accrediting agency, shall be eligible to receive a Tennessee HOPE scholarship or a General Assembly Merit Scholarship after attempting at least twenty-four (24) semester hours at the regionally accredited out-of-state institution, if the student:

(1) Is not ineligible for the scholarship under § 49-4-904;

(2) Upon completing high school or obtaining a GED, met all residency requirements for receipt of the scholarship and the academic requirements of § 49-4-907 or § 49-4-908 for the Tennessee HOPE scholarship or the academic requirements of § 49-4-916 for the General Assembly Merit Scholarship;

(3) Entered the regionally accredited out-of-state institution by the fall semester immediately following completing high school or obtaining a GED;

(4) Makes application for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship or a General Assembly Merit Scholarship;

(5) Transfers from the regionally accredited out-of-state institution to an eligible postsecondary institution no later than the fall semester following the last semester of attendance at the out-of-state institution; and

(6) Meets the requirements of § 49-4-911 for continuation of the scholarship applicable to the number of collegiate semester hours attempted at the out-of-state postsecondary institution.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.